Surcharge on power tariff

2258. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has worked out a new proposal to levy surcharge on tariff for power generated from the Central Power Stations;

(b) if so, the details of the new proposal;

(c) the estimated amount which Government expect to mobilise as a result of the surcharge; and

(d) whether a part of the proceeds would be passed on to the States, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) National Hydel Power Corporation (NHPC) has been advised to approach the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) for the levy of a 10 paise surcharge in respect of power generated from its generating stations to mobilise additional resources for accelerating hydro power development in the country.

Unelectrified villages

2259. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the Indian Express dated December 24,1999 .captioned, where 21st century means a light bulb;

(b) if so, the number and percentage of such unelectrified villages, as the one in Thane (Daand) refered to in the report, on the eve of the 21 st Century, in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and in the country as a whole; and

(c) the number of villages electrified in the first three years of the Ninth Five Year Plan in these States and in the country, indicating the targets contemplated under the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of un-electrified villages in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and in the country as a whole, is given at attached Statement-I *(See* below)